



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2491.37US02

Gimpel et al.

Confirmation No.: 9545

Application No.: 10/601,843

Filed: June 23, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3635

For: FRAMEWORK CONNECTION SYSTEM

---

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This information is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew T. Macari  
Registration No. 50,291

Customer No. 24113  
Patterson, Thuent, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.  
4800 IDS Center  
80 South 8th Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100  
Telephone: (612) 349-5759

Application No. 10/601,843

*Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1460, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

11/3/03  
Date of Deposit

Matthew T. Macari  
Matthew T. Macari



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

				Application Number	10/601,843
				Filing Date	June 2,3 2003
				First Named Inventor	Gimpel et al.
				Art Unit	3635
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	2491.37US02

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US-6,615,562 B2	09/09/2003	Mark Fritsche et al.
		US-6,405,884 B1	06/18/2002	Dany Dion
		US-6,273,633 B1	08/14/2001	Daniel Husson et al.
		US-6,216,887 B1	04/17/2001	Mike Soo
		US-6,149,021	11/21/2000	Bryan J. Beaulieu
		US-6,079,178	06/27/2000	Mark E. Fisher
		US-5,957,614	09/28/1999	Winfried Aurich
		US-5,769,247	06/23/1998	Milton J. Merl
		US-5,706,622	01/13/1998	Fredric Lange
		US-5,651,630	07/29/1997	Ryoichi Nomura
		US-5,561,960	10/08/1996	Larry A. Minnick et al.
		US-5,549,408	08/27/1996	Wei W. Lo
		US-5,537,766	07/23/1996	Lowell W. Nickens et al.
		US-5,536,097	07/16/1996	Jacques Hazan
		US-5,501,051	03/26/1996	Jeffrey Harlan
		US-5,370,249	12/06/1994	Thomas D. Harvey et al.
		US-5,351,843	10/04/1994	William J. Wichman et al.
		US-5,277,512	01/11/1994	Paul K. L. Dwillies
		US-5,271,685	12/21/1993	Manfred Stark
		US-5,269,112	12/14/1993	Leonard Weinrub et al.
		US-5,115,623	05/26/1992	Erik Ahlberg
		US-5,111,631	05/12/1992	Ronald Flood et al.
		US-5,101,607	04/07/1992	Johannes E.O. Staeger
		US-5,092,385	03/03/1992	Bryan J. Beaulieu
		US-5,038,529	08/13/1991	John L. Conley et al.
		US-4,986,038	01/22/1991	Bruce E. Backer
		US-4,951,440	08/28/1990	Johannes E.O. Staeger
		US-4,934,858	06/19/1990	Bryan J. Beaulieu
		US-4,815,885	03/28/1989	Brian L. Wright
		US-4,800,663	01/31/1989	Theodore R. Zeigler

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.  
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

NOV 5 2003		US-4,658,560	04/21/1987	Bryan J. Beaulieu
		US-4,583,359	04/22/1986	Hans Staeger
		US-4,471,548	09/18/1984	John Goudie
		US-4,455,103	06/19/1984	Dieter Hackenberg
		US-4,355,918	10/26/1982	Marius Van Vliet
		US-3,980,408	09/14/1976	Rolf D Jachmann
		US-4,345,849	08/24/1982	Bruno Stenemann
		US-4,212,445	07/15/1980	Magnus F. Hagen
		US-3,980,408	09/14/1976	Rolf D. Jachmann
		US-3,787,134	01/22/1974	Alan Carleton Burr
		US-3,606,027	09/20/1971	Denis Clements
		US-3,483,998	12/16/1969	D.R. Butler
		US-D 417,292	11/30/1999	Hans Staeger
		US-D 408,560	04/20/1999	Hans Bruder
		US-D 373,692	09/17/1996	Hans Staeger
		US-2001/0050262 A1	12/13/2001	Angelo J. LaBruna, Jr. et al.

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		CA 1048970	02/20/1979	Robert L. Shillum	
		WO 89/06724	07/27/1989	Staeger	
		EP 1 164 230 A1	12/19/2001	Hans Bruder	
		DE 9017415.1	12/22/1990	H.H. Wilhelm	
		DE 298 21 204 U 1	04/08/1999		
		DE 296 19 015 U 1	02/13/1997		
		DE 203 09 076 U 1	09/18/2003		

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
-----------------------	--------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



<b>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/601,843
				Filing Date	June 23, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Gimpel et al.
				Art Unit	3635
Examiner Name					
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	2491.37US02

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>ps2000 brochure</u> , 2001	
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>imagine that. brochure</u> , 2000	
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>design ideas brochure</u> , 2000	
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>How Do You Market Your e-Business Offline?</u> brochure, 2001	
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>mirage plus brochure</u> , 2001	
		Skyline Displays, Inc., <u>skytruss brochure</u> , 2001	
		Trussworks, Truss Catalog web page printout, <u>Truss Parts</u> , August 17, 2001	
		Trussworks, Truss Catalog web page printout, <u>Trussworks Photos, Graphics Frame</u> , page 1, August 17, 2001	
		Trussworks, Truss Catalog web page printout, <u>Trussworks Photos, Graphics Frame</u> , page 2, August 17, 2001	
		Trussworks, Truss Catalog web page printout, <u>Trussworks Photos, Exhibit Photos</u> , page 1, August 17, 2001	
		Trussworks, Truss Catalog web page printout, <u>Trussworks Photos, Graphics Frame</u> , page 12 August 17, 2001	
		Xtensis, <u>The Exhibit System You've Been Waiting For!</u> , Xtensis brochure, Canfield Industries, Inc., 20 pages,	
		INdoor, <u>Präsentationssysteme</u> , FRistem, 14 pages	
		Catalog, <u>Your Handrail Source</u> , Hollaender, 50 pages	

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
-----------------------	--------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*